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- NEWS RELEASE -

VOTER REGISTRATION SURGE CONTINUES

BYSIEWICZ PREDICTS VOTER REGISTRATION COULD HIT 2 MILLION

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz reports that in advance of the November elections, record numbers of Connecticut residents are registering to vote. In the seven weeks since the February 5th presidential primary, nearly 20,000 residents registered to vote.

"There is an incredible renewed sense of enthusiasm and interest in the political process," said Bysiewicz. "The surge in voter registration we experienced before the February 5th primary has continued through March. This is great news as we head toward our goal of two million active registered voters for the 2008 presidential election."

Currently, there are 1,941,035 registered voters in Connecticut. Among newly registered voters nearly 9,000 Democrats and 2,600 Republicans registered to vote. Additionally, more than 8,000 unaffiliated voters registered. Of the nearly 20,000 newly registered voters, more than 4,500 are between the ages of 18 and 29. Since February 5th, among newly registered younger voters, Democratic registration has outpaced Republican registration: 2,311 to 469.

"This past February, record numbers of young people cast ballots," said Bysiewicz. "In this time of economic insecurity, war, and environmental peril, young peopleclearly want a say in the direction of this country."

The Office of the Secretary of the State maintains an aggressive voter registration program working closely with community groups, high schools, universities and others to

expand civic involvement among Connecticut residents. As part of her effort to increase voter registration in Connecticut, Secretary Bysiewicz this past year registered more than 1,000 high school students. She has also conducted more than 200 voting machine demonstrations highlighting the new machines and registering voters. The Office of the Secretary of the State regularly registers new citizens to vote at naturalization ceremonies across Connecticut.

CONNECTICUT VOTER REGISTRATION BY PARTY

PARTY	COUNT
A Better Future	3
A Connecticut Party	55
A Sentinel Party	36
Concerned Citizens	278
Connecticut For Lieberman	37
Democratic	710424
Enfield Taxpayers Party	2
Friends Of Saybrook	21
Green	1821
Independence	929
Independence For Montville	11
Independent	1764
Libertarian	832
Norwich for Change	1
Orange Taxpayers	8
Pro-Bethel	5
Reform	90
Republican	415092
Swing	2
Unaffiliated	809569
Waterford Independent	1
Winsted Independent	43
Working Families	10
Working Families Party	1
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	1941035

TOTAL 18 TO 29 YEAR-OLD VOTER REGISTRATION BY PARTY

PARTY	COUNT
A Connecticut Party	2
A Sentinel Party	2
Concerned Citizens	35
Connecticut For Lieberman	11
Democratic	82178
Friends Of Saybrook	1
Green	729
Independence	236
Independence For Montville	2
Independent	310

Libertarian	260
Reform	21
Republican	31594
Unaffiliated	138953
Winsted Independent	4
Working Families	2
Working Families Party	1
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